consultation with RBI. However on a fresh demand it has been decided that the above Committee of Officers will meet soon again to consider the demand of raising of the write off limit from a principal of Rs. 5000 as recommended earlier by the Officers Committee to Rs. 25,000/- the repayment of the balance after the above write off to be spread over a period of 5 years and the scaling down interest rate of 1% on the bank loans given to them instead of the recommended 4% by the above Committee.

Action against Organisations Spreading Communal feelings

1081. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government are aware that some of the organisations/institutions and political parties are spreading the communal feelings for disintegration of the country; and

(b) if so, the names of these organisations and what steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Prosecution under Official Secrets Act

1082. DR. SHRIKANT RAMACHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of prosecutions uder the Official Secrets Act, 1923 during the last three years;

(b) what were the brief grounds of sucl. prosecutions; and

(c) whether Government propose to review the Official Secrets Act, 1923 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) : (a) and (b) According to available information, prosecutions have been sanctioned in 13 cases during the last three years. The prosecutions were mainly for spying activities, recovery of secret documents etc.

(c) There have been some suggestions in this regard.

Proposals for Changing the Geographical Names

1083. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR :

SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) What is the number of proposals for change in Geographical names which are pending with the Central Government; and

(b) what are the guidelines laid down and followed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) : (a) Out of proposals for change in the names of villages, districts, railway stations etc. received from different State Governments from 1st January, 1991 to 17-11-1992, 17 proposals are pending.

(b) The guidelines laid down in 1953 contain various broad principles which are required to be kept in view by the State Governments while examining the question of changing the names of villages, towns, cities etc. The guidelines, inter alia, mention that unless there is some very special reason, it is not desirable to change a name which people have got used to; that a change should not be made on grounds of local patriotism or for linguistic reasons or for merely satisfying local sentiments.

Analysis of the Findings of 1991 Census

1084. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR :
SHRI V. RAJESWAR RAO :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the analysis of the findings of the Census of 1991 has been completed;